

NOTICE Effective July 1, 2018

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF METTER'S DOG ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY ADEQUATE FOOD, ADEQUATE SHELTER, ADEQUATE SPACE, ADEQUATE WATER, AND SANITARY CONDITIONS

Code of Ordinances, City of Metter Georgia

Title 6, Animals Chapter 6.04. – Dogs

6.040.020 amended to include the following Definitions.

"Adequate Food" means sufficient quantity of non-contaminated and nutritionally healthy sustenance that is appropriate to the species, size, age, and health of the animal, or at the direction of a licensed veterinarian, which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Garbage, spoiled, rancid, or contaminated food is not adequate food.

"Adequate shelter" means a protective covering for an animal that is of adequate size and provides adequate protection to maintain the animal in a state of good health, and that prevents pain, suffering, or significant risk to the animal's health. Adequate shelter shall consist of a completely enclosed structure with four sides with a door opening, a constructed floor, and a roof. It should also be clean, dry, and compatible with current weather conditions, in addition to age, size, species, and condition of the animal. The structure should be of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around, lie down, and go in and out of the structure comfortably. To be adequate, some type of bedding that is quick drying, such as hay or pine straw, must be provided to maintain comfortable temperatures within the structure during times when the ambient, outside temperature is below freezing. From April through October, the structure shall either be shaded or moved out of direct sunlight. If the shelter is made of wood, it shall be raised at least two inches off the ground to prevent seepage or rotting. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, dog transport carriers, abandoned vehicles, porches, decks, or material that does not provide sufficient protection from the elements.

"Adequate space" means a sufficient safe space for adequate exercise suitable to the age, size, species, and breed of animal.

"Adequate water" means clear, drinkable water in adequate supply. Examples of inadequate water include, but are not limited to: snow, ice, and rancid/contaminated water.

"Sanitary conditions" means an animal living space, shelter, or exercise area that is not contaminated by health hazards, irritants, pollutants, items, or conditions that endanger or pose a risk to an animal's health.

Section 6.04.080

- A. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any dog to refuse or fail to provide such dog with adequate food, humane care, adequate water, adequate space, adequate shelter, sanitary conditions and treatment needed to prevent suffering.

If you need assistance concerning the new ordinance then you may contact Metter Animal Shelter (912-685-7877) or Metter Police Dept. (912-685-5437) We will be happy to come out and answer any questions or help make suggestions concerning your pets living conditions.